WINTER HAVEN
The Chain of Lakes City

WELCOMES YOUR INTEREST IN THE POSITION OF

PLANNER II
A VIBRANT COMMUNITY

Attractive Destination to Call Home
Winter Haven offers an authentic Florida lifestyle. It’s a classic medium-size city that chooses to differentiate itself with an understated cool vibe. Arts and culture, playful fun, music fusion, affordable homes, a craft brewery, and local eateries are just a sampling of daily life.

Walk the brick-lined downtown streets and explore well-manicured green space with outdoor sculpture displays, great restaurants, and a 32,000-square-foot state-of-the-art Library. The expanding downtown core is home to unique shops, one-of-a-kind restaurants, the Central Park District through the center of town, and a healthy business district.

Winter Haven has a thriving and diverse business community with a foundation in small business, but with numerous larger institutions. Industry sectors with the strongest growth include data technology and storage, healthcare, logistics and distribution, and hospitality. And let’s not forget about Winter Haven’s Regional Airport with a restaurant, retail space, hangar leasing, and other airport amenities.

Lakes, Lakes, Lakes
More than 80,000 people choose to live in the greater Winter Haven area taking advantage of its year-round recreation, climate, and central location. The City stretches over 40 square miles, much of which takes the form of sparkling, fun-filled lakes.

Winter Haven is known as the Chain of Lakes City with two chains connecting 24 lakes. Covering nearly 30 percent of our community, about a quarter of the city's population resides adjacent to a lake, and the area is quickly becoming known as the “Inland Coast.” With 50 lakes inside the City limits, 22 boat ramps, 14 public docks, and 30 waterfront parks, there are a multitude of opportunities for both residents and visitors.

Award-Winning Downtown
Downtown Winter Haven recently received the Great Place People’s Choice Award, from the American Planning Association – Florida Chapter, beating out other quality destinations in Florida! Located in almost the exact geographic center of Florida, Winter Haven is the second largest city, population wise, in Polk County. More than 175 popular special events are offered annually, many of which are staged in the downtown Central Park District. A vibrant and active downtown hosts live music regularly at just about every corner establishment – and outdoors every Friday evening. The historic Ritz Theatre located in the downtown hosts live theatre productions by the award-winning Theatre Winter Haven.
Community partners such as the dynamic Main Street Winter Haven organization and exceptional Greater Winter Haven Chamber of Commerce offer unique festival opportunities, attracting people from all over the southeastern United States.

Gram Parsons Derry Down, an authentic Americana historic music venue in downtown Winter Haven, offers a stage for musicians, young and old, to gather and share their talents, attracting music lovers from hundreds of miles around. Multiple arts and culture opportunities are also available in galleries, parks, and other venues throughout the City!

LEGOLAND Florida Resort theme park is a 150-acre family destination with more than 50 rides, shows and attractions geared for families with children ages 2 to 12, as well as ultimate LEGO fans.

Enjoy the outdoors! Fishing, ‘baseball and softball tournaments’, nature parks and trails, and water activities such as boating, skiing, fly boarding, wakeboarding, paddle boarding and kayaking are all readily available throughout the community.

**Education Opportunities**

The Winter Haven community cares about its schools and children. Businesses and individuals alike are involved in our public education system and its goals, through advocacy, community engagement, and collaborative partnerships to assure schools are different in quality, relevance, and student performance. Winter Haven has 11 elementary schools, four middle schools, and two high schools, with options for magnet, charter, parochial and private schools.

Winter Haven is home to Polk State College (PSC), which offers more than 20,000 students per year cost-effective and affordable four-year degrees. PSC’s Advanced Technology Center is home to the Corporate College and offers high-tech programs such as Engineering Technology and Supply Chain Management. By way of an established partnership, PSC also provides Public Safety and Leadership Development education and training for the City. Florida’s newest university, Florida Polytechnic, located less than 30 minutes away from the City is dedicated entirely to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).

**Live, Work & Play Here**

Winter Haven, Florida continues to experience steady and controlled growth as it transforms into a distinctively unique City, embracing the values and needs of its residents. It sets its sights on attracting millennial families and young professionals looking for a vibrant, growing and energetic community with a "hometown" feel. Of course, no matter what the age, Winter Haven welcomes those young at heart interested in experiencing this unique lifestyle.
CITY GOVERNMENT
The City of Winter Haven operates under a Council-Manager form of Government. Five elected City Commissioners are responsible for City policy. The City Manager, who reports to the Commission, is responsible for day-to-day operations. The City has a 500+ workforce.

Planner II
(Development Review)

The City of Winter Haven is committed to principles of redevelopment that strengthen our neighborhoods and further enhance the vibrancy of our community. The City is seeking a candidate with strong interpersonal skills and significant experience facilitating development and redevelopment opportunities. The ideal candidate will demonstrate the ability to communicate and connect with key stakeholders including neighborhood leaders, developers, and community public and private partners.

Under the guidance of the Planning Manager, the Planner II will primarily coordinate the review of development proposals to ensure compliance with the Comprehensive Plan, Land Development Regulations, and other City rules and procedures. Secondary tasks will include review and analysis of applications for annexations, zoning amendments, Comprehensive Plan amendments, variances, conditional uses, special uses and similar requests; and providing customer service to the City's residents, businesses, and developers.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education
Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with a degree in Planning or related field, including urban studies, geography, public administration, political science, urban design, environmental studies, landscape architecture, GIS, or other similarly related fields.

Work Experience
The ideal candidate will have at least two years of public planning experience; or a Master's degree in Planning and one year of public planning experience. An equivalent combination of education and experience that is determined to be directly related to the foregoing specific requirements may be substituted.

Desired Attributes
- Attention to detail
- Wants to make a difference
- Ability to interpret land development regulations
- Familiarity with civil site plans
- Sound judgment and decision-making skills
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Knowledge of how municipalities function
- Strong multi-tasking and problem-solving skills
- Fosters a team atmosphere with city leadership, employees, elected officials, and citizens

Integrity/Respect • Financial Stewardship • Inclusive • Visionary • Exceptional Service
COMPENSATION

The starting salary is $43,388 with a comprehensive benefit package of a full range of leave benefits, health and life insurance, and a 401A defined contribution plan with the City contributing 7.5% of salary and an employee contribution of 3% of salary. Salary is negotiable based on qualifications and experience.

HOW TO APPLY

Send application with cover letter and resume by April 17, 2020, to:

Human Resources
City of Winter Haven
P.O. Box 2277
Winter Haven, FL 33883
humanresources@mywinterhaven.com
863-291-5650

For additional information regarding the City, visit www.mywinterhaven.com

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Through Exceptional Service

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